



**St. Andrew
Presbyterian Church
of Aptos**

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Worship Bulletin for June 21, 2025

WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

Welcome and Announcements

***Call to Worship** *(responsive)*

Come, bless the Lord with me!

**For the Lord is like a father to his children
compassionate and merciful,
filled with endless love.**

He forgives our sins,
and heals the sickness inside us;
**he surrounds us with love and mercy
and fills our lives with good things!**

Let's worship God together!

***Hymn**

This Is My Father's World

GtG # 370

This is my Father's world, and to my listening ears
all nature sings, and round me rings the music of the spheres.
This is my Father's world; I rest me in the thought
of rocks and trees, of skies and seas, his hand the wonders wrought.

This is my Father's world. O, let me ne'er forget
that though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the ruler yet.
This is my Father's world. The battle is not done:
Jesus who died shall be satisfied, and earth and heaven be one.

Prayer of Confession *(unison)*

**O God, Father that you are, you know what is right for us,
but too often we only want our way or no way, instead of your way.
Have mercy upon us when we turn from you.
Forgive us when we do not realize your fatherly love and direction for us.**

Have mercy upon us indeed, and teach us anew how to follow you,
Father that you are. We pray this through your Son, our Lord and Savior,
Jesus Christ, Amen.

Time for silent reflection.

Assurance of Grace *(responsive)*

The Lord is like a father to us, compassionate and merciful, filled with endless love.
He is not easily angered, nor does he remain angry forever.
He doesn't treat us as our sins deserve, or punish us as harshly as he could.
And as far as the east is from the west, so far has God removed our sins from us.
So be at peace: you are forgiven!

Thanks be to God!

***Gloria Patri**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen.

Special Music

Lupita Alaniz

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

(Those with prayer requests worshipping online, please text Anne the day before so your request can be lifted-831-345-6324)

Sharing Joys and Concerns

Song of prayer *Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying* *(pew song sheet)*

Prayers lifted to God and The Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

***Hymn**

There Is Now a New Creation

GtG # 774

There is now a new creation through the grace of Jesus Christ,
peace and reconciliation with the God of endless life.

Call the lost and found together; tell the news to everyone:
now the past is gone forever and a new life has begun.

Wrap the prodigal in welcome; run to greet the wayward child.
All is finished and forgiven; let us now be reconciled.

Come and join the celebration; come and join this happy feast;
Jesus makes an invitation to the greatest and the least.

There is now a new creation through the grace of Jesus Christ.
Sing, with thanks and adoration, to the God of endless life!

WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination (*unison*)

Faithful Father, help us to hear your Word and live it out faithfully. Let your truth take root and bear fruit in our daily lives. Amen.

First Lesson:

Proverbs 23:22-25

OT page #605

Listen to your father who begot you, and do not despise your mother when she is old. Buy truth, and do not sell it; buy wisdom, instruction, and understanding. The father of the righteous will greatly rejoice; he who fathers a wise son will be glad in him. Let your father and mother be glad; let her who bore you rejoice.

Second Lesson:

Luke 15:11-32

NT page #78

Then Jesus said, "There was a man who had two sons. The younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the wealth that will belong to me.' So he divided his assets between them. A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant region, and there he squandered his wealth in dissolute living. When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that region, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that region, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. He would gladly have filled his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, and no one gave him anything. But when he came to his senses he said, 'How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands."' So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. Then the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' But the father said to his slaves, 'Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate, for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!' And they began to celebrate.

"Now his elder son was in the field, and as he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. He replied, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf because he has got him back safe and sound.' Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. But he answered his father, 'Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command, yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your assets with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!' Then the father said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.' "

WE RESPOND IN FAITH

*Affirmation of Fathers (*unison*)

God took the strength of a mountain,
The majesty of a tree,
The warmth of a summer sun,
The calm of a quiet sea,
The generous soul of nature,
The comforting arm of night,
The wisdom of the ages,
The power of the eagle's flight,
The joy of a morning in spring,
The faith of a mustard seed,
The patience of eternity,
The depth of a family need,
Then God combined these qualities,
When there was nothing more to add,
He knew His masterpiece was complete,
And so, He called it ... Dad

Offering

Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Christ, all people here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore; Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

Offering Prayer (*unison*)

God of all gifts, we give You these offerings today, knowing You are the Father of all good things. We honor the fathers among us for their strength and leadership. We also recognize that this day can be complex, and we pray Your comfort for those who have difficult memories or are missing their dads. Accept these gifts as a token of our abundant gratitude. Amen.

WE LIVE TO SERVE

*Hymn

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

GtG # 39

Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father;
there is no shadow of turning with thee.
Thou changest not; thy compassions they fail not.
As thou hast been thou forever wilt be.

(Refrain)

Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!

Morning by morning, new mercies I see.

All I have needed thy hand hath provided.

Great is thy faithfulness, Lord unto me!

Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest,

sun, moon, and stars in their courses above

Join with all nature in manifold witness

to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. **(Refrain)**

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,

thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide,

Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow:

blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! **(Refrain)**

Benediction

The service of worship ends, the service of neighbor and world begins

TODAY'S SERVERS

LITURGIST: Stan Cowan

GREETER: Janet Maack

COFFEE HOST: Gwen Yeo

ACCOMPANIST: Eileen Mihm

OFFERING COUNTERS: Janet Maack and Judy Zscheile

Unity Candle:

This week we pray for Cornerstone of Silicon Valley Presbyterian Church in San Jose

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Monday:

- **General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church starts today.** *(see insert)*
- **Bell Choir at 2:15PM**

Saturday:

- **Homeless Showers at St. John's in Aptos from 11-2PM**
- **Home Cluster meets at Lori Burkett's home at 4PM**

Upcoming Event

- **June 28th:** Lunch Cluster #1 meeting at The Whale City Café & Brewery (7941 Soquel Dr., Aptos) hosted by Stan Cowan
- **Sept 19th:** Autumnal Potluck (Progressive Dinner) at Keith McKenzie home at 4PM



General Assembly Starts June 22, 2026!

The General Assembly (GA) starts tomorrow in Milwaukee. Anne served as the Commissioner to the 2020 GA when it met on Zoom during COVID. Imagine meeting online for two weeks! And yet serving was a great honor representing our Presbytery within the national church.

The **General Assembly** of the **Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) (PCUSA)** is the highest governing and most inclusive council in the denomination. Functioning as both a legislative body and a worshiping event, it meets every two years to discern the church's direction, vote on policies, and elect leaders, including our new Moderator/s.

As the highest council of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), the General Assembly is made up of commissioners from presbyteries, with teaching elders and ruling elders represented in equal numbers. Young Adult Advisory Delegates, Theological Student Advisory Delegates, and Partner Advisory Delegates also constitute the assembly. These individuals gather for the business meetings of committees and plenary to discern the future of the church and make decisions that are implemented throughout the life of the PC(USA).

If you want to follow along on what happens at General Assembly go to <https://myga.pc-biz.org/> and you can get updates.